

Paper Reference(s)

**5544/07**

# **Edexcel GCSE Geography B**

## **Unit 4: Researching Geography**

Sample Controlled Assessment Material

Theme: Coastal environments  
Task question 1

**Valid from XXX to XXX**

**NXXXXXX**

W850/.../57570

**THEME: Coastal environments**

**Task question 1: Along most coastlines, there are striking differences in the physical nature of the coast and its ecosystems**

**How far does the research you have carried out make you think that this statement is correct?**

How to tackle the task:

**a. Pre-fieldwork phase**

*High level of control. Suggested timing 5 hours.*

- Your fieldwork investigation will need to have a focus linked to the task question. This may include, for example, any geographical models that could be tested. This focus will be provided by your teacher.
- Begin the initial background research into the topic area. You can use any resources normally available in your school or college.

**b. Fieldwork activity**

*Limited level of control. Suggested timing 1 day.*

- Decide how you will collect the data for your fieldwork investigation.
- When you carry out your fieldwork investigation you will be working as a team to collect your **primary fieldwork** data. Your findings must be recorded accurately and reliably. You may use any recording sheets you may have been provided with or developed yourself.
- Record any **secondary sources** you are going to use to provide you with additional data, eg other peoples' photographs, videos, newspaper editorials etc. Consider the reliability and usefulness of these particular.
- Decide whether you will take photographs of equipment or people involved in the investigation or to produce some field sketches or sketch maps.

**c. Data presentation and report writing**

*High Level of control. Suggested timing 7 hours.*

- Decide how to structure your report and which sections to include.
- Use maps to locate your field study area and consider why this location was chosen.
- Describe the specific aims you were given in relation to this fieldwork and also any aims you decided upon individually.
- Explain the methods you used, suggesting why particular techniques were chosen. Record your investigation technique in a suitable way, explaining what you did and your reasons for doing it.
- Ensure that you communicate your findings clearly using correct geographical language, grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The quality of communication in your report will be marked.

**d. Analysis**

*High level of control. Suggested timing 5 hours.*

- Use a range of appropriate techniques to refine and display your results and findings.
- Carry out the analysis of your data. Make sure you refer back to a range of data sources, both primary and secondary. Provide an explanation for the patterns in your data.
- Explain your conclusions.
- Explain how far you agree with the statement given in the task question. Draw on the evidence collected, both primary and secondary data.

**e. Evaluation**

*High level of control. Suggested timing 3 hours.*

- Explain how accurate and reliable your results are.
- Explain how what might you do differently if you were going to repeat the investigation and how may that help you to improve the results collected, or the reliability and accuracy of your data.